

Dear Brother Scott (you bastard),

When Winston Churchill was asked to cut arts funding in favour of the war effort, he simply replied, "then what are we fighting for?"

Arts has always played an important role for humanity.

We learnt in Covid that creative industries make an incredible difference. For health and wellbeing, for connection, for respite, for inspiration, for joy, for freedom, for community, for expression, for meaning, for fostering understanding, for celebration. For Hope.

We acknowledge that cutting non-essential services is necessary in a crisis. Art, however, is an essential service. Art is what it means to be alive.

When the creative industries and culture are at the bottom of the list, we jeopardise our country's resilience. We jeopardise humanity's ability to solve problems, to band together, to transcend boundaries, to understand diverse perspectives, to empathise, to survive.

To say that surviving the climate change crisis can occur without what the arts offers humanity is folly.

Art gives us faith, hope and love. Art keeps us physically, mentally and spiritually nourished.

We implore you to invest in the Arts. Renewed investment in the creative industries and culture is an investment in our Australian community.

Lots of love,

Row G. Scott

"Don't make art history. Invest in humanity."

Dear Prime Minister,

The arts are an integral part of the fight against the climate crisis. We write to you as artists, entertainers and creative professionals who want to help - but we need your support.

- The climate crisis will bring new problems that will require new solutions. The next generation needs to continue to have creative capacity. They need strong arts education from the primary school level.
- Oral storytelling is part of the human tradition. Look at how folk stories and songs pass down wisdom from generation to generation; think of charity songs so catchy that they drive support towards disaster relief. Through creativity, we can make your message stronger.
- The effects of global warming are present in every aspect of our lives, and it's exhausting. When you come home from work and unwind with a TV show or an old favourite song, you're looking to us for a moment of relief from the weight of our reality. Art is what can give people the distraction that keeps them afloat.
- If you want to get Australians through this dangerous time, you need them to have hope. You need them inspired. You need something that fuels connection and community, something that boosts their morale and supports mental and physical health. This is something that the arts can give – you need to make sure they know that.

No-one can deny that this is a crisis and the way forward is unclear. But we know what we can do to help. You need our voices. Let's collaborate better, communicate better, and care better.

Kind regards,
The Heiss Group

Dear Prime Minister,

After all these pandemics, after all the economic crashes, the natural disasters, what's left? What else is there except for art & culture. What will unite us? What will connect our communities back together?

When we faced a worldwide pandemic, communities gathered around the world to create. Families were singing on balconies, children were building book exchange programmes on the streets, artists were painting rainbows, orchestras were holding concerts, professional performers were sharing their works with us all, theatres around the world were offering free seating to online audiences and post lockdown theatres were giving away free seating in venues to bring people back together. In the home we were going back to crafts, hobbies, cooking, sewing & knitting to keep our mental health & also sharing these experiences just to stay connected & not feel alone.

When the world faced flash floods, cyclones & natural disasters - the arts raised millions to support the communities affected, we created programmes to help communities heal from their hurt. The sector assisted them to rally together, raising awareness for mental health & the importance of engagement & connection with others.

Coming together to share the experiences that only the arts can offer unites families, brings together communities, defines culture & creates nations.

Art is the essence of human existence.

Signed

Team Frankland

Dear Prime Minister

Our challenge to you is to see the arts as an integral part of the climate response.

We are educators, storytellers and keepers, healers and fighters for change.

We could be first responders too.

We care about our communities. We are our communities.

We are diverse, indigenous, creative and caring. A resource just waiting to be tapped into and utilised to our fullest potential.

Cutting our funding sends us a message that you do not value what we contribute to society.

The COVID pandemic highlighted that our communities need holistic support for general wellbeing. People sought creative outlets and self-expression which proved so powerful during lockdowns. People found refuge and connections through varied art forms.

1 Corinthians 12:26 "if one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honoured every part rejoices with it."

Practice what you preach.

There is already an organisation called Refuge in Victoria fighting to do exactly this. (see links below)

With greater government support imagine the impact we as healers and storytellers could do for our country.

A - Adaptable

R - Resilient

T - Therapeutic

S - Significant

Sincerely Winch group

Circuit West showcase

PS Pass the plate!

<https://resetartsandculture.com/reset-conference-2021/artshouse.com.au/artist-opportunities/refuge/>

Hey PM

The arts is the vehicle needed for laypeople to approach the encroaching climate emergency. For time immemorial humans have used performance, storytelling, dance, drama, and music to share the stories that are relevant and pressing. The arts is an essential vehicle to share the stories of this climate disaster, and connect people & ideas as we search for creative solutions going forward. The arts are a strong force of mental health people in contact with the real world. Arts gives people hope as we wage war on warming.

Consider this in your leadership of our crisis.

Lucashenko

Dear Prime Minister,

Imagine your church without song?

Without the theatre of religion? Without the light show, the rock band and choir?

That would be your life without Art.

Imagine your family's life without Art. No bedtime stories, no end of year school concert, no blue -light disco's.

That would be their life without Art.

Imagine the community's life without Art? A colourless, tuneless world where life stories and experiences are not shared.

Humans are social animals and the Arts help them to connect and empathise, leading to a more civil society.

So in this time of crisis, when we need to put the needs of society before our own selves, the Arts will be your helper.

We are your first responders for mental health and happiness.

For that we need funding.

"Please sir, can we have some more?"

Yours sincerely

The Arts Community

Dear PrimeMinister,

Artists vote.

Yours Sincerely

Joan Fletcher
Dalwallinu

Dear Prime Minister

We are writing to ensure you understand that your Government currently has a rapidly narrowing window to invest in creating a new generation of creative thinkers to drive future innovation in science, technology, manufacturing as well as the creative industries in Australia. This approach not only drives the economy, it provides the cultural life Australians expect.

Without your immediate investment an integrated arts and cultural strategy that is adequately resourced, we will be unable to maintain the unbroken thread of cultural activity that defines our national identity. Gaming and IT, music, Netflix, the film industry, - all these cannot exist without the grassroots arts development and activity at local level from the smallest most remote communities to our capital cities

Don't let the extinction of the arts be your legacy.

The Wright Group

We got Kylie selling 80 million albums.
We got \$38 million of ticket sales
from Babe.

We got 63 million viewers of Bluey.
We got one million people to see Ed Sheeran live
in Australia.
You need our reach. You need our messaging.
Especially in a crisis.